



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A dust collecting apparatus for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to impart[[s]] a cyclonic spin on contaminant-laden air drawn through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet; and

a filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the air outlet, the filter assembly comprising:

a filter member,

a filter frame receiving the filter member therein, and having a second air outlet corresponding to the first air outlet of the cyclonic chamber,

and a third air outlet fluidly connected with a second conduit which is fluidly connected to an air driving source, and

a cover removably connected to the filter.

Claim 2 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of first support projections formed along an inner surface of a lower portion of the filter frame, for causing the incoming air from the second air outlet to be evenly distributed over the filter member.

Claim 3 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of second support projections formed along an inner surface of an upper portion of the cover, for directing air from the filter member to flow through the third air outlet and also for supporting the filter member in cooperation with the first support projections.

Claim 4 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 3, wherein free ends of the first and the second support projections are rounded.

Claim 5 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover is connected to the filter frame by a rotatable connecting means.

Claim 6 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 5, wherein the rotatable connecting means comprises:

at least one connecting groove formed on the upper side of the filter frame, having one open side in the rotation direction of the cover; and

at least one connecting projection formed on the cover in a radial direction for inserting in the open side of the connecting groove.

Claim 7 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 6, wherein the cover comprises a grip, for rotating the cover and connecting the cover to the filter frame.

Claim 8 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the filter frame is removably fastened to the upper side of the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 9 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the filter frame is integrally formed with the upper side of the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 10 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grill assembly comprises:

a grill body;

a plurality of louvers formed on the outer circumference of the grill body at an acute angle with respect to the streamline of the spinning air; and

a dust blocking member formed at an upstream end of the grill body, for deflecting the contaminant toward the spinning air.

Claim 11 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 10, wherein the upper side of the grill body includes a screw hole for screw-fastening the grill body to the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 12 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 11, wherein the lower side of the filter frame includes a screw hole corresponding to the screw hole on the upper side of the grill

body,

whereby the grill body, the cyclonic chamber and the filter frame are screw-fastened to each other, integrally.

Claim 13 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 10, wherein the dust blocking member is integrally formed with the grill body.

Claim 14 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 10, wherein the dust blocking member comprises:

a first conical member secured to the grill body and increasing in diameter towards the lower portion of the first conical member; and

a second cylindrical member connected to the first conical member and extending downwardly from the first conical member to a predetermined depth.

Claim 15 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first conical member and the second cylindrical member are integrally formed with each other.

Claims 16-18: Cancelled.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 17~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to imparts a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet,

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly;

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main filter member;

a dust blocking member disposed at a lower end of the main filter support, for deflecting the contaminant in the grill assembly-headed air towards the spinning air, and

wherein the main filter member includes folds for increasing the contact area with the incoming air through the grill assembly.

Claim 20 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 19, wherein the folds of the main filter member are formed in a lengthwise direction relative to the axis of the main filter member.

Claims 21-24: Cancelled.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 24~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to imparts a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet,

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly;

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main

filter member; and

a dust blocking member disposed at a lower end of the main filter support, for deflecting the contaminant in the grill assembly-headed air towards the spinning air, and

wherein the grill assembly comprises:

a grill body, having an upper side removably connected to the upper side of the cyclonic chamber and a lower side sealingly supported on the dust blocking member; and

a plurality of louvers formed on the outer circumference of the grill body at an acute angle with respect to the streamline of the spinning air, wherein the upper side of the grill body includes a screw hole for screw-fastening the grill body to the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 17~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to imparts a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet,

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly;

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main filter member; and

a dust blocking member disposed at a lower end of the main filter support, for deflecting the contaminant in the grill assembly-headed air towards the spinning air, and

wherein the supplementary filter assembly comprises:

a supplementary filter member;

a supplementary filter frame receiving the supplementary filter member

therein, and having a second air outlet corresponding to the first air outlet of the cyclonic chamber, and a third air outlet fluidly connected to a second conduit which is fluidly connected to an air driving source; and

a cover removably connected to the upper side of the supplementary filter frame.

Claim 27 (Currently amended): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 24~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to impart[[s]] a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet, and

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly;

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main filter member; and

a dust blocking member disposed at a lower end of the main filter support, for deflecting the contaminant in the grill assembly-headed air towards the spinning air, and

wherein the grill assembly comprises:

a grill body, having an upper side removably connected to the upper side of the cyclonic chamber and a lower side sealingly supported on the dust blocking member; and

a plurality of louvers formed on the outer circumference of the grill body at an acute angle with respect to the streamline of the spinning air, and

wherein the supplementary filter assembly comprises:

a supplementary filter member;

a supplementary filter frame receiving the supplementary filter member therein, and having a second air outlet corresponding to the first air outlet of the cyclonic chamber, and a third air outlet fluidly connected to a second conduit which is fluidly connected to an air driving source; and

a cover removably connected to the upper side of the supplementary filter frame.

Claim 28 (Original): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 26~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to impart[[s]] a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet,

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly;

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main filter member; and

a dust blocking member disposed at a lower end of the main filter support, for deflecting the contaminant in the grill assembly-headed air towards the spinning air, and

wherein the supplementary filter assembly comprises:

a supplementary filter member;

a supplementary filter frame receiving the supplementary filter member therein, and having a second air outlet corresponding to the first air outlet of the cyclonic chamber, and a third air outlet fluidly connected to a second conduit which is fluidly connected to an air driving source; and

a cover removably connected to the upper side of the supplementary filter frame; and

~~further comprising~~ a plurality of first support projections formed along an inner surface of a lower portion of the filter frame, for causing the incoming air through the second air outlet to be evenly distributed over the supplementary filter member.

Claim 29 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 28, further comprising a plurality of second support projections formed along an inner surface of an upper portion of the cover, for directing air from the supplementary filter member to flow through the third air outlet and also for supporting the supplementary filter member in cooperation with the first support projections.

Claim 30 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 29, wherein the cover is connected to the supplementary filter frame by a rotatable connecting means.

Claim 31 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 30, wherein the rotatable connecting means comprises:

at least one connecting groove formed on the upper side of the filter frame, having one open side in the rotation direction of the cover; and

at least one connecting projection formed on the cover in a radial direction for inserting in the open side of the connecting groove.

Claim 32 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 31, wherein the cover comprises a grip for rotating the cover and connecting the cover to the filter frame.

Claim 33 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 29, wherein the supplementary filter frame is removably fastened to the upper side of the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 34 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 29, wherein the supplementary filter frame is integrally formed with the upper side of the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 35 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 33, wherein,
the upper side of the grill body includes a screw hole for a screw-fastening with the cyclonic chamber,
the upper side of the main filter support portion includes a screw hole

corresponding to the screw hole on the grill body,

the lower side of the supplementary filter frame includes a screw hole corresponding to the screw hole on the upper side of the grill body, and

the grill body, the main filter support portion, the cyclonic chamber and the supplementary filter frame are screw-fastened to each other, integrally.

Claims 36-38: Cancelled.

Claim 39 (Currently amended): ~~The dust collecting apparatus of claim 38~~ A dust collecting apparatus for a cyclone type vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclonic chamber having an air inlet fluidly connected to a first conduit which is fluidly connected to a suction brush of a cleaner body, and a first air outlet, wherein the cyclone chamber is configured to impart[[s]] a cyclonic spin on a contaminant-laden air drawn thereto through the air inlet;

a dust receptacle removably connected to the cyclonic chamber for receiving a contaminant which is thrown out from the spinning contaminant-laden air by centrifugal force;

a grill assembly disposed inside the cyclonic chamber and on an upstream side of the air outlet for preventing the thrown out contaminant from flowing backwards through the first air outlet;

a main filter assembly removably connected to the inside of the grill assembly, for filtering out the contaminant being discharged to the grill assembly; and

a supplementary filter assembly formed at an outer side of the cyclonic chamber, for re-filtering out the contaminant flowing in through the first air outlet,

wherein the grill assembly comprises:

a grill body;

a plurality of louvers formed on the outer circumference of the grill body at an acute angle with respect to the streamline of the spinning air; and

a dust blocking member formed at an upstream end of the grill body, for deflecting the contaminant toward the spinning air, and

wherein the main filter assembly comprises:

a main filter member for filtering the contaminant backflowing from the grill assembly; and

a main filter support having a plurality of frames for supporting the main filter member, and sealingly supported on the dust blocking member of the grill assembly, and

wherein the grill assembly and the main filter assembly are integrally formed with each other, and

wherein, the upper side of the grill body includes a screw hole for screw-fastening to the cyclonic chamber.

Claim 40 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 39, wherein,
the upper side of the grill body includes a screw hole for screw-fastening to the cyclonic chamber,
the lower side of the supplementary filter frame includes a screw hole corresponding to the screw hole of the upper side of the grill body, and
the grill body integrally formed with the main filter assembly, the cyclonic chamber and the supplementary filter frame are screw-fastened with each other.

Claim 41 (Original): The dust collecting apparatus of claim 40, wherein the dust blocking member comprises:
a first conical member secured to the grill body and increasing in diameter towards the lower portion of the first conical member; and
a second cylindrical member connected to the first conical member and expending downwardly from the first conical member to a predetermined depth.